



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Washington, DC
20250

FV306-CS1

April 2004

Commodity Specification

Corn Syrup (High Fructose)

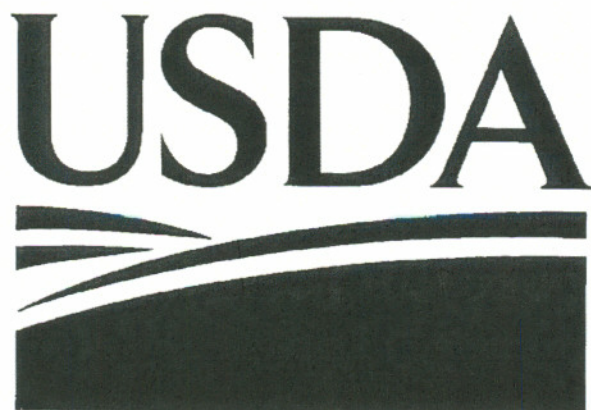


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I. General**A. Commercial Item Description (CID)**

Corn Syrup (high fructose) produced under this Commodity Specification must meet the requirements specified in the applicable CID A-A-20124C, effective at the date of the Invitation for Offers to Sell (Invitation).

B. Exceptions to CID

Exceptions to the CID purchases are found in Section II, Commodity Specifications, of this document. Additional exceptions may be specified in the applicable Invitation. Any exceptions contained in the applicable Invitation shall have precedence over the requirements contained herein, for that Invitation only.

C. Product Origin

1. Corn Syrup delivered pursuant to this Commodity Specification shall have originated from crops that have been 100% grown, processed, and packed in the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, (hereinafter referred to as the United States). See Section I.F. of Announcement FV-306.
2. If the contractor handles any commodity originating from sources other than the United States, the contractor must have a written plan to segregate the commodity. This segregation plan will include an identification and record system for all commodities to ensure they are completely segregated and cannot be used to fulfill contracts awarded by USDA. Such segregation plan must be made available to representatives of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).
3. The contractor must maintain positive written documentation records evidencing 100 percent domestic origin, to the grower level. Contractors must also ensure that the documentation provided by any sub-contractors demonstrates the same level of traceability. The burden of proof of compliance is on the contractor.

Documentation may include load or warehouse storage receipts for raw product (i.e., bin tags), product blend (formulation) records, product coding explanations, finished product warehousing records, shipping or payment records, or other documentation or evidence that clearly establishes the product's domestic origin.

4. Such records must be available for review by the Government in accordance with Article 76 of USDA-1. In the event of an audit, AMS auditors will examine documents to verify compliance.
5. Self-certifications by contractors and sub-contractors will not be accepted.
6. Failure to observe this requirement may lead to suspension or debarment, contract termination, and penalties at Title 18, Section 1001 of the US Code concerning falsification of information.

D. Manufacturing Practices**1) Good Manufacturing Practices**

All Corn Syrup must be produced in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practices (21 C.F.R., Part 110).

2) Plant Sanitation Inspection

Successful bidders are required to undergo a plant sanitation inspection.

The primary purpose of conducting a plant sanitation inspection is to ensure that the contractor produces products in a clean, sanitary environment. Contractors are required to maintain process operations records that are sufficiently detailed as to allow the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) and AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, to determine past and current sanitation practices.

FGIS will conduct the plant sanitation inspection. FGIS personnel will follow the procedures found in FGIS' Sanitation Inspection Handbook. Contractors must provide the Contracting Officer with a copy of an acceptable sanitation inspection report.

Contractors who have completed a FGIS plant sanitation inspection for any other purpose within six months of the award will also be deemed to have satisfied this requirement.

Completion of the plant sanitation inspection prior to the submission of a bid is suggested, but not required. If a firm submitting a bid receives an award, and has not had a plant sanitation inspection within the past year, it must provide proof of an acceptable plant sanitation inspection not later than 10 business days from the date of the contract. Failure to provide a sanitation inspection report within the proper time frame will result in the contract being terminated for cause.

E. Packing Season

All corn syrup products must be from the current packing season/crop year, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Invitation.

F. Types and Styles of Corn Syrup

The types and styles of corn syrup to be purchased will be specified in each Invitation.

G. Markings, Labels and Packaging

Commercial labels and packaging are acceptable as long as it meets the Food and Drug Administration requirements. The following applies for commercial labels and packaging:

1. Intermingling of labeling methods is not acceptable in a shipping unit (truckload).

2. Two or more different commercial labels are not allowed in a shipping unit (truckload).
3. The manufacturer must establish a product identification coding and record systems that clearly links product by place and date of manufacture to specific USDA contracts and destination.
4. The required product identification and record systems, including codes, must be reviewed and approved by FGIS. FGIS will include the product identification codes on the Commodity Inspection Certificate (Form FGIS-993) that will accompany the product to destination.
5. The product identification code used for traceability must be placed in a visible location all primary containers in such a manner that it may not be removed.

The following applies to USDA labels and packaging:

The Contractor must place a unique lot code for every lot offered for inspection on all primary and secondary containers. The contractor may use any type of codes desired and may place the codes anywhere on the outside of the containers. Specific codes can only be used one time for each contract. Lots that are not uniquely marked will be treated as any other lot with marking deficiencies and rejected.

1. Primary Containers

Corn Syrup (high fructose) delivered pursuant to this Announcement and applicable Invitations should be packaged in bottles as indicated below:

- a. Glass Bottles. Glass bottles will contain 16 fluid ounces of product and must be the type and style normally used commercially for corn syrup.
- b. Plastic Bottles. Plastic bottles will be blow molded from natural, unpigmented polypropylene or propylene-ethylene copolymer and may be with or without handles, and must be of the type and style normally used commercially for corn syrup. Plastic resins and antistatic agents must comply with FDA requirements for use in contact with foods.

Capacity - 16 or 24 fluid ounces of product.

Shape - Type and style normally used commercially.

Finish - Finish that is normally used commercially.

All containers must be of food grade quality in compliance with the Food Additives Regulations of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.
All containers must be completely sealed.

2. Secondary Containers (cases)

- a. Shipping containers for 16-Ounce Glass or 16-Ounce Plastic. The bottles will be packed in a new corrugated fiberboard shipping containers with partitions that provide a separate cell for each bottle and which are acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destination. Furthermore, the Contractor will furnish a Certificate of Conformance to FGIS that the shipping containers when full of product can withstand stacking two pallets or 14 tiers high.
- b. Shipping containers for 24-Ounce Plastic Bottles. The bottles will be packed in a new corrugated fiberboard shipping containers with an H, Z or U type/style divider meeting good commercial practices and which are acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destination. Furthermore, the Contractor will furnish a Certificate of Conformance to FGIS that the shipping containers when full or product can withstand stacking two pallets or 14 tiers high.

Cases must be marked in such a manner that they contain all of the symbols, statements and information contained in Exhibit 1, "Required Markings for Shipping Containers".

Cases may be marked by printing or stenciling or by preprinted (with **BLACK INK**), self-adhesive stickers. Self-adhesive stickers must be affixed to the case in such a manner that they cannot be removed intact.

Case markings must be clearly marked, easily read, and substantially the same as specified in Exhibit 2.

Exhibit 3 shows an alternative placard that may be applied to a new, corrugated fiberboard case acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. This placard must be affixed to the case in such a manner that they cannot be removed intact.

Cases must have the recycling statement shown in Exhibit 5, "Please Recycle" Symbol and Statement or Exhibit 6, "Corrugated Recycles" Symbol and Statement.

3. Tape Sealing of Shipping Containers

Shipping cases of corn syrup products must be sealed by plastic tape in lieu of glue. The tape must be of the width and strength used commercially and that is acceptable by common carriers for safe transportation to destinations. The tape must extend down the sides or ends at least two inches. A tape of the see-through type may be used.

4. Labels and Case Markings

The containers, labels, cases and case markings shall meet the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 CFR Part 42).

The bottles will be labeled with full wrap-around labels or 2 spot labels using the colors required in the mechanical layout for the applicable product and be of the type and design shown in mechanical for base art and overlay. These mechanical layouts, suitable for

reproduction, are available from the Contracting Officer upon request. All printing will be made scuff resistant by the application of a varnish, lacquer, or synthetic coating to the label after printing.

Shipping cases for corn syrup products shall be printed or stenciled with **BLACK INK** as shown in Exhibit "2". The Universal Product Code (UPC) bar code must be placed on the shipping cases. See Exhibit "4" for details. The net weight must be expressed in metric as well as avoirdupois units.

H. Universal Product Codes (UPC)

Contractor's UPC is acceptable for commercial labels and packaging.

Primary label and shipping container UPC for USDA products are listed in Exhibit 4. The Contractor's UPC is not acceptable for USDA's labels and packaging requirement. The primary container UPC must be positioned on the label as shown in Exhibit 1. The shipping container UPC must be marked on the case as shown in Exhibit 2.

I. Palletization Requirements

1. Pallets

Pallets must be on 48 X 40 inch, non-reversible, flush stringer, and partial four-way entry. New pallets must be good quality woods. Used pallets must be No.1 hardwood or its equivalent in new softwood. If pallet exchange is desired, the contractor shall arrange for pallet exchange with consignees. USDA is in no way responsible for arrangement of pallet exchange.

2. Unitization

Each delivery unit of corn syrup must be unitized (palletized and stretchwrapped). Shipping cases must be stacked and secured from top to bottom, so that each container and layer of containers becomes an integral part of the pallet. Either stretch wrapping with plastic film or "lock 'n pop" is acceptable.

II. Commodity Specifications

Average Net Weight Requirement and Under-Fill Limit

The average net weight of the lot must meet the weight as specified by the label. Failure of the lot to meet the average net weight requirement will cause rejection of the lot.

No individual container shall weigh less than the under-fill limit. Lots found to have any containers weighing less than the under-fill limit will be rejected.

<u>Net Weight Requirement</u>	<u>Under-fill Limit</u>
2.16 pounds (24-fluid ounces)	2.12 pounds
1.44 pounds (16-fluid ounces)	1.38 pounds

Sample Size per lot shall be as follows:

<u>Lot Size in Primary Containers</u>	<u>Gross Weight</u>	<u>Tare Weight</u>
Less than 251 primary containers	6 primary containers	6 primary containers
More than 250 primary containers	18 primary containers	18 primary containers
Appeal	36 primary containers	36 primary containers

A representative sample from every lot must be submitted to the laboratory for testing. The lot must meet the following specifications:

Corn Syrup (High Fructose) will be formulated from corn produced in the United States (including Puerto Rico). The syrup shall meet the salient characteristics and analytical requirements specified in the CID A-A-20124 (published separately).

III. Inspection and Checkloading

A. Requirements

Representatives of the USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) must perform the inspection and checkloading required by Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1. **The cost of inspection, samples taken for inspection, mailing of review samples submitted for evaluation, and any chemical analysis required for testing shall be for the account of the Contractor.**

Inspection of corn syrup must be performed not more than 90 days prior to shipment. FGIS will determine if each lot offered for inspection meets that product and container requirements of the contract on the basis of representative sample units. Representative sample units will be examined and analyzed in accordance with applicable provisions of CID A-A-20124, and United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 C.F.R. part 42.140), effective on the date of the Invitation.

B. Certification

Subject to Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1, the acceptability of the quality, weight, packaging, and checkloading of the product must be evidenced by certificates issued by FGIS.

Contractor must not ship the product unless informed by the FGIS that the containers and markings meet the Acceptable Quality Level (AQL) of the "U.S. Standards for Condition of Food Containers." Notice by FGIS that a designated lot scheduled for shipment does not meet the AQL will constitute rejection to the contractor of such lot. Except with respect to shipments that do not meet the AQL standards, and notwithstanding Article 56(b) of USDA-1, contractor may ship the product prior to receipt of the commodity

C. Procedures

The Contractor must give FGIS at least 7 days advance notice when scheduling inspection service.

IV. Failure to Meet Specifications

Any lot which fails applicable specifications prescribed herein, as determined by FGIS, will be rejected as not acceptable for delivery. If any lot of corn syrup fails to meet the product or packaging requirement noted below, the Contractor may request in writing that USDA accept delivery of the lot. USDA may, at its option, accept delivery, provided that the purchase price is the contract price less the discount, to be determined by the Contracting Officer, depending upon the reason(s) for the failure to meet specifications.



Suzanne Rigby
Chief, Commodity Procurement Branch
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service

V. Exhibits

Exhibit 1
Required Markings for Shipping Containers
ALL PRINTING TO BE IN BLACK INK

DO NOT STACK OVER TWO PALLETS OR FOURTEEN TIERS HIGH

<u>BOTH SIDE PANELS</u>	<u>BOTH END PANELS</u>
PRODUCT NAME 1/	PRODUCT NAME CONTRACT NO. 2/ PACKED IN 3/ BY 4/
USDA SYMBOL 5/	6/
DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	
NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE	

Product name must be printed or stenciled on a separate line in letters at least three-fourths inch high, and all other information must be in letters less than three-fourths inch but at least three-eighths inch high. The USDA Food Symbol must be printed, stamped, or labeled and be of sufficient size to stand out prominently. Case markings must be limited to case codes and those contained in this Exhibit.

- 1/ Insert the size and number of packages per case (i.e. 12/16 fl. Oz. Or 12/24 fl. oz. bottles).
- 2/ Insert the last five digits of contract number.
- 3/ Insert month and year packed (The first month of packing season is acceptable).
- 4/ Insert name of Packer and Packer's Address - City, State, and Zip Code. This information can be placed on the end panels or the side panels.
- 5/ Insert Universal Product Code (see Exhibit "4").
- 6/ Vendors who have proper certification are encouraged to place the universally recognized Kosher symbol here.

Exhibit 2
Alternative Label for Shipping Containers
(Includes all Required Information)



Product Name

Style

Size/Number per case

Contract Number xxxxx

Packed in: Month Year

Packed by: ABC Company

Any Town, CA 99999

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED

STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE



1234567891012345678910

Exhibit 3
Sample Alternative Label for Shipping Containers



CORN SYRUP

(High Fructose)

12/24 OZ Fl Btl

Contract Number 92000

Packed in: November 1999

Packed by: ABC Company

Any Town, CA 99999

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN
COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR
TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC
FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED
STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE**



1 11 07 15001 01424 2

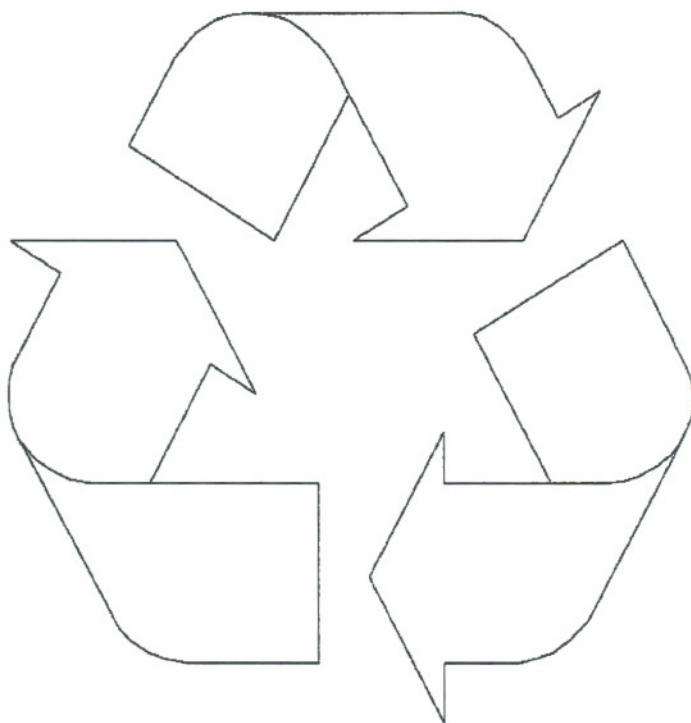
Exhibit 4

Universal Product Codes

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>PRIMARY CONTAINER</u>	<u>SHIPPING CONTAINER</u>
CORN SYRUP (12/24 -oz.)	7 1500101251 7	1 07 15001 01251 4
(24/16-oz.)	7 1500101250 0	1 07 15001 01250 7

Exhibit 5

“Please Recycle” Symbol and Statement



**PLEASE
RECYCLE**

Exhibit 6

“Corrugated Recycles” Symbol and Statement



**Corrugated
Recycles**

Exhibit 7

USDA Symbol

